

RESPONSE TO ACCOMPANY REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

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Serial No. 09/989,967

Attorney Docket No. 10008078-1

Title: IMAGING DEVICE LIST STORAGE

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1. (Currently Amended) An imaging device comprising:

an image generator, wherein the image generator is a print engine internal to a first imaging device;

a network interface, wherein the network interface is adapted to couple the first imaging device to a network;

an embedded webserver with a management facility; and

a controller coupled to the network interface and the image generator, wherein the controller is internal to the first imaging device and is adapted to store a list of other imaging device network addresses;

wherein the controller is adapted to communicate the list of other imaging device network addresses through the network interface to an imaging device management facility upon request; and

~~wherein the list of other imaging device network addresses contains supplemental information on each of the other imaging devices, where the supplemental information is selected from the group consisting of media types, marking material types, imaging device features, imaging device configuration, imaging device usage information, imaging device status, and imaging device imaging rate.~~

wherein the controller is further adapted to discover the list of other imaging device network addresses and to limit the list of other imaging device network addresses to those other imaging devices that are similar to the imaging device.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the controller is adapted to mirror the list of other imaging device network addresses through the network interface to another imaging device upon request.

4. (Original) The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the controller is adapted to store a list of other network addresses in a media that is selected from the group consisting of SRAM, DRAM, a non-volatile memory device, a register, magnetic media, and optical media.

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5. (Previously Presented) The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the imaging device usage information is one of job origin, number of pages imaged, number of copies of jobs received, number of errors, types of errors, marking material usage, and marking material level.
6. (Original) The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the list of other network addresses is in a format selected from the group consisting of a formatted memory block, a formatted media blocks, a formatted file system block, a sequential list, a linked list, and a webserver cookie.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended) The imaging device of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein discovering the list of other network addresses further comprises discovering the list of other network addresses with a manner selected from the group consisting of querying network addresses for known device specific interface protocols, generally broadcasting a device identification protocol for specific device types to respond to, and pinging network addresses.
9. (Currently Amended) The imaging device of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein discovering the list of other network addresses is scheduled to occur at specific times, and where the supplemental information on the other imaging devices is updated during the scheduled discovery times.
10. (Currently Amended) The imaging device of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, wherein a history list of previously valid network addresses is utilized in discovering the list of other network addresses.

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11. (Previously Presented) The imaging device of claim 1, wherein a network device at a network address notifies the first imaging device when the network device goes offline or comes online.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently Amended) A computer-usable medium having computer readable instructions stored thereon for execution by a processor of an imaging device to perform a method comprising:
determining a list of network addresses [[for]]limited to other imaging devices similar to a first imaging device, wherein the first imaging device contains a print engine;
storing the list of network addresses on the first imaging device; and
communicating with the other similar imaging devices utilizing a management facility on an embedded webserver of the imaging device by referring to the list of network addresses for the other imaging devices;
wherein determining a list of network addresses [[for]]limited to other imaging devices similar to a first imaging device further comprises determining supplemental information on the other imaging devices, where the supplemental information is one of media types, marking material types, imaging device features, imaging device configuration, imaging device usage information, imaging device status, and imaging device imaging rate.
14. (Currently Amended) The computer-usable medium of claim 13, wherein determining the list of network addresses [[for]]limited to other imaging devices similar to the first imaging device further comprises discovering the network addresses for other imaging devices similar to the first imaging device.
15. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an imaging device, the method comprising:
determining a list of network addresses and supplemental information [[for]]limited to other imaging devices similar to a first imaging device, wherein the first imaging device contains a print engine;

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storing the list of network addresses on the first imaging device, wherein the supplemental information is selected from the group consisting of media types, marking material types, imaging device features, imaging device configuration, imaging device usage information, imaging device status, and imaging device imaging rate;

referring to the list of network addresses of other imaging devices for communication between imaging devices; and

directing the communication between the first imaging device and the other similar imaging devices through a network interface with a webserver and management facility embedded in the first imaging device.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein determining the list of network addresses ~~[[for]]~~limited to other imaging devices similar to the first imaging device further comprises discovering the network addresses for other imaging devices similar to the first imaging device.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein a discovery manner is selected from the group consisting of querying network addresses for known device specific interface protocols, generally broadcasting a device identification protocol for specific device types to respond to, and pinging network addresses.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
notifying the first imaging device when an imaging device associated with a network address of the list of network addresses for other imaging devices goes offline or comes online.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising mirroring the list of other imaging device network addresses through the network interface to another imaging device upon request.

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20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the imaging device usage information is one of job origin, number of pages imaged, number of copies of jobs received, number of errors, types of errors, marking material usage, and marking material level.
21. (New) The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the list of other imaging device network addresses contains supplemental information on each of the other imaging devices, where the supplemental information is selected from the group consisting of media types, marking material types, imaging device features, imaging device configuration, imaging device usage information, imaging device status, and imaging device imaging rate.
22. (New) The imaging device of claim 1, wherein the controller is further adapted to limit the list of other imaging device network addresses to those other imaging devices that are similar to the imaging device with regard to manufacturer, imaging device type, or features.